(b) if so, the details of the directions issued by RBI;

(c) whether stapling is one of the major causes for damage of currency notes; and

(d) if so, what are the other causes which spoil the currency notes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Yes. Sir. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has instructed all commercial banks including Regional Rural Banks and Local Area Banks to do away with stapling of fresh/re-issuable/non-issuable note packets and instead secure note packets with paper bands and also to tender soiled notes in unstapled condition to RBI in inward remittances through currency chests.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Besides stapling, other causes which affect the life of bank notes are improper handling habits of the people like writing on the face of notes, folding/multiple folding of notes and using gum tapes for pasting of notes.

Stock market manipulation by Ranbaxy

3269. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some companies have given large amounts for stock market manipulations; if so, the details thereof;

(b) if so, what action has been taken so far;

(c) whether Government have advised for inspection of the companies under Section 209 of Companies; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has intimated that during the course of investigation by SEBI into the market manipulations, it was revealed that Vidyut Investment (a subsidiary of Ranbaxy Lab Ltd), Kopran Ltd and Essel Group Companies (Essel Group belongs to promoters of Zee Telefilm) have given funds to certain entities including the entities associated with Ketan Parekh.

(b) SEBI has sought explanations from the above corporate houses regarding funds given by them to the entities and from Ketan Parekh and his entities regarding the purpose of receipt and payment of funds from/ to corporates. Investigations have been initiated.

(c) and (d) Department of Company Affairs (DCA) has ordered inspection of books of accounts and other records of 98 companies (including Ranbaxy) under Section 209A of the Companies Act 1956 based on the Preliminary Investigation report of SEBI on stock market scam of 2001. 539 prosecutions have been launched/ordered so far, against the companies inspected for violation of various provisions of the Act.

Irregularities in sanctioning of loans

†3270. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) The details of the industrialists and their institutes/industries of the country which have been provided with the loans by banks during the last three years alongwith the amount paid to them and form in which the payment was made;

(b) the details of the money received from the said Industries/ Financial Institutions so far;

(c) the amount of Banks and Financial Institutions which has been written off/put in NPA;

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to recover the said amount; and

(e) the action taken against the officials and bureaucracy responsible for issuing such loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) In accordance with the practices and usages customary amongst the banks and in conformity with provisions of statutes governing the financial institutions as also the provisions of Public Financial Institutions (Obligations as to Fidelity & Secrecy) Act, 1983, the specific information in respect of individual constituents cannot be divulged. However, the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.